Application No.: 09/965,993

REMARKS

The following claims are pending in the application: 1 - 21, and 46 - 72

The following claims have been amended: Not applicable

The following claims have been deleted: Not applicable

The following claims have been withdrawn: 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 14, 15, 48, 49, 50,

53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 61, 62, 67, 68,

69, 71, and 72

The following claims have been added: 88 - 91

As a result of the foregoing Amendment, the following claims remain pending in the application: 1 - 21, 46 - 72, and 88 - 91.

Election/Restriction Requirement

The Examiner has required that Applicant make one selection from each of the following species of the claimed invention so as to identify a single sub-species:

- I. A projectile-firing device comprising either (1) compressed gas, (2) explosive charge, or (3) electrical charge;
- II. A projectile material comprising either (1) metallic, (2) plastic, (3) liquid, or (4) ice; and
- III. A securing mean comprising either (1) vacuum, (2) magnetic, or (3) mechanical.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner errantly failed to list "(3) mechanical" as one of the possible choices for the securing means and points to paragraph [0012], last sentence as providing adequate disclosure support for the

inclusion of the element in the "securing means" category. Applicant hereby elects: (2) an explosive charge, (1) a metallic projectile, and (3) a mechanical securing means.

Applicant submits that claims 1 - 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 - 21, 46, 47, 51, 52, 55, 56, 60,63 - 66, 70 and 88 - 91 are readable thereon.

Newly added claims 88 through 91

Applicant has added claims 88 through 91, which claim a mechanical securing means. Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner to paragraph [0012], last sentence, which discloses that the "material(s) may be releasably secured in a position over the die cavity by clamping devices". Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been entered by the addition of claims 88 - 91.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and accompanying remarks, the Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is properly in condition for allowance and may be passed to issuance upon payment of the appropriate fees.

Telephone inquiry to the undersigned in order to clarify or otherwise expedite prosecution of the subject application is respectfully encouraged.

Respectfully submitted,

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